

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-25 (Cancelled).

26-36 (Cancel).

37. (Previously Presented) An isolated nucleic acid consisting of a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide: Ala-Gln-Glu-Pro-Val-Lys-Gly-Pro-Val-Ser-Thr-Lys-Pro-Gly-Ser-Cys-Pro-Ile-Ile-Leu-Ile-Arg-Cys-Ala-Met-Leu-Asn-Pro-Pro-Asn-Arg-Cys-Leu-Lys-Asp-Thr-Asp-Cys-Pro-Gly-Ile-Lys-Lys-Cys-Cys-Glu-Gly-Ser-Cys-Gly-Met-Ala-Cys-Phe-Val-Pro-Gln.

38. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid according to claim 37 wherein said nucleotide sequence is GCTCAAGAACCAAGTTAAAGGTCCCTGTGTCTACTAAGGCCAGGTTCTTGTCCATTATCTTGATTGCGCTATGTTAAACCCACCTAACCGTTGTTGAAGGACACTGATTGTCCAGGTATCAAAAAGTGCTGTGAAGGTTCCCTGCGGTATGGCTTGTTCGTCCACAA.

39. (Previously Presented) An isolated replicable plasmid expression vehicle comprising as an insert the nucleic acid according to claim 37.

40. (Previously Presented) An isolated transformed host cell comprising the expression vehicle according to claim 39.

41. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of a replicable expression vehicle comprising inserting the nucleic acid according to claim 37 into a vector at an appropriate insertion site so that a replicable plasmid expression vehicle is obtained that directs the synthesis of the polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid.

42. (Previously Presented) A process for producing a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell according to claim 40 under conditions sufficient to produce said polypeptide.

43. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of a transformed host cell comprising introducing into a host cell the expression vehicle according to claim 39.